

Customs Modernization

May 2002 Status Update for Oversight Organizations

At-a-Glance

May 17: Symposium of the America's, Miami, FL

June 4-6: Trade Support Network Meeting, Fairfax, VA

Web Links

How familiar are you with Modernization acronyms? Check them out on Customs Modernization Web site at: www.customs.gov/modernization.htm

Funding Update

In mid-March Congress approved \$188.6 M for the continued activities of ACE including, Increment 1, Release 1 and requirements and planning for Increment 1, Release 2. The CMO submitted a request for release of funds for Increment 1, Release 2, in the amount of \$190.2M.

"The [Web portal demo] technology is excellent. The Web Portal seems easy to use and will make information more transparent to its users."

*Jim Phillips
Customs Administrator
General Motors*

Web portal demo creates a window into Modernization systems

The Customs Modernization Office (CMO) and the e-Customs Partnership are working on developing a Web-based portal to serve as the standardized interface to access various systems that will help conduct business in a more productive manner.

A Web portal demonstration; "Proof of Concept," was developed to provide a snapshot of some of the improved functionality that may be available in the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE). This demo was recently presented to various Customs employees and trade participants such as Target, The Limited, and General Motors.

The term "proof of concept" describes the process for enabling a representation of how this portal may look. The demo is neither a prototype nor intended to depict the actual release. The demo itself does not do all of the things presented. When ACE is completely delivered, it will. In the meantime, it allows viewers to

witness some benefits and expanded capabilities that the portal could provide. The representation was also designed as a tool to prompt discussion and allow developers to gather feedback on how the system could be developed to meet user's specific needs.

Currently, information is not easily transferred from one system to another because a user must log onto one system at a time. One of the concepts behind the Web portal is to allow access to multiple systems for information gathering and analysis. The interactive features of the portal could allow important updates and messages to be shared between authorized commercial partners and Customs through the portal.

Customs is continuing to gather requirements from key stakeholders during the design and development phases of the first ACE deliveries. These requirements and Customs Modernization objectives help shape what ACE will look like when it is delivered to system users.

The new portal will permit users to integrate, aggregate, and relate account information with greater flexibility than ever before. The demo shows that in the future, users will be able to access and analyze data in a more efficient way that will save time and resources.

Customs Modernization Office
703-440-3000 • cmo@customs.treas.gov
www.customs.gov/modernization



Customs Modernization:
New World, New Tools